

Big Bend

Ranger Programs

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Big Bend National Park
Rio Grande Wild & Scenic River



October 1–14, 2017

Sunday, October 1st

9:30 AM Guided Walk – “History Beneath Your Feet” Big Bend is rich with history, including the very trails we hike on. Join Ranger A. Marini to learn more about what the Civilian Conservation Corps built and how we maintain these hiking trails using similar tools and construction methods. Meet at the Lost Mine trailhead. Bring water, a hat, and wear good hiking shoes. 1.5 miles. 1 hour.

8:30 PM Evening Program – “Jet Fighters & Hang Gliders: The World of Big Bend’s Raptors” Big Bend is home to a rich diversity of birds, including raptors. Join Ranger M. Lavender for a visual program to learn more about this unique type of bird, how to identify them in the wild, and what makes them so inspirational. Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Wheelchair accessible. Bring a flashlight. 1 hour.

Sunday, October 8th

9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Healthy Parks, Healthy People” Work got you stressed? Have elevated blood pressure? Looking to shed that extra pound? Join Ranger J. Jurado for a look at why some doctors are prescribing parks to patients, and how a visit to Big Bend can make you physically and emotionally healthier. Meet at the Chisos Basin Trailhead. Bring water and wear hiking shoes. 1 mile walk. 1 hour.

8:30 PM Evening Program – “Find Your Park in Big Bend” As one of 59 national parks and 417 national park units, Big Bend National Park offers spectacular opportunities for recreation, education, and discovery. Join Ranger M. Lavender to explore the uniqueness of Big Bend and “Find Your Park!” Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Wheelchair accessible. Bring a flashlight. 45 minutes.

The 22 mile–long Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive offers access to eight different trails, several scenic vistas, many paved pullouts with exhibits that highlight park geology and cultural history, and culminates at the Castolon Historic District. Take a day and go explore!

Explore beyond the park and learn more about Big Bend history. The Terlingua Ghost Town offers several restaurants and stores, as well as a self–guiding tour of the old quicksilver mining district and historic cemetery.